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21 MAY 1963

Dear Joe:

The rate at which the CIA-DIA special project on the Soviet ground forces is progressing is causing me growing concern. You will recall that Secretary McNamara asked Mr. McCone for a preliminary report in August. To assist the project we in CIA have taken the following steps:

1. designated the CIA members for the project panel,
2. tabled terms of reference for discussion,
3. requested special support from the Deputy Director (Plans),
4. proposed an operating procedure for the panel,

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We have kept your staff informed as to these actions and I am attaching for your record the relevant papers. I am also attaching copies of the exchange of correspondence between Secretary McNamara and Mr. McCone so you can be sure that your file is complete in this respect.

You will note in ANNEX I, page 7, of the attached CIA proposed terms of reference (15 April 1963) that we believe the study should include consideration of the following general topics:

- I. Organization
- II. Equipment, Combat
- III. Costs
- IV. Employment
- V. Effectiveness

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With respect to topics I and II, my staff is currently exploring the feasibility of applying automatic data processing techniques to achieve rapidly a first cut at the integration of TMI materials. I am also pleased to be able to inform you in connection with topic II that the DD/P Staff has already begun to implement my request (3, above). With respect to topic III my staff will shortly be distributing the detailed estimates of land armament expenditures which were requested by your staff. At the same time my staff is formulating certain requests to be made of the Office of the Secretary of Defense and the Department of the Army for comparative US cost data. I hope that in the near future you and I shall both hear that constructive technical advances are in progress.

I imagine you feel as I do that the preliminary report to the Secretary must necessarily be partial in nature and tentative as well, but that every effort must be made to be as responsive to the Secretary's needs as possible. To this end I suggest that we charge our representatives on the panel with completing the terms of reference and the panel's operating procedures in the next few days, with arranging for the integration of the new materials in the next few weeks and with producing a progress report for you and me by the end of June.

In this connection please let know at your very earliest convenience who your designees for the project panel are, and whether or not you approve our proposed terms of reference and operating procedures (or what your counterproposals are).

RAY S. CLINE
Deputy Director (Intelligence)

Lt. General Joseph F. Carroll
Director, Defense Intelligence Agency
Washington 25, D. C.

Enclosures:
Listed on following page

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Enclosures:

1. Project Panel List (3 Apr 63)
2. Proposed Terms of Reference (15 Apr 63)
3. Acting Deputy Director (Intelligence) Letter of 7 May 1963 to Deputy Director (Plans)
4. Panel Operation Plan (9 May 63)
5. Request for NSA Briefing dated 20 May 1963
6. Secretary of Defense Letter of 13 Feb 63 to Director of Central Intelligence
7. Director of Central Intelligence Letter of 8 Apr 63 to Secretary of Defense
8. Secretary of Defense Letter of 23 Apr 63 to Director of Central Intelligence

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ORR/M/ME:JCG:paw/5238 (20 May 63)

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REMARKS:

The DO/I has signed this and sent it to General Carroll.
 A meeting is being arranged between Cline and Carroll to
 discuss "the problem".

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GROUP I
 Excluded from automatic downgrading
 and declassification

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